sanction by the Diwan under Rule 62 of the Cochin Standing Orders to accept valedictory addresses during the last 10 years?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

A list furnishing the information available is laid on the table. (*Vide Appendix III.*)

The Appointment of a Special Officer to protect the Depressed Classes.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

124. Will the Government be pleased to appoint a Special Officer in Cochin, as is done by the Madras and Travancore Governments, to protect the interests of the so-called depressed classes and work for their improvement?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

Government will be glad to have the subject examined in the form of a resolution and to be given an opportunity to ascertain the sense of the Council.

The Work done by the Malayalam Improvement Committee.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

125. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a consolidated report of the work done by the Malayalam Improvement Committee for the last 3 years?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

The member is referred to the answer to the question No. 12.

Dr. A. G. MENON.

The same thing, the same grievance.

The Secretary to the Legislative Council as a Member of the Council.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

126. Is it the practice in any Legislative Council in the Sister States in British India to appoint the Secretary as a member of the Council? If so, in which legislature?

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

Government have not thought it necessary to enquire into that matter.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

When our Government follows the rules and procedure of British India and all the other Native States in almost all the ther respects, how is it that in one respect there is a deviation?

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The Secretary who is really a servant of the Council is nominated a member of the House.

PRESIDENT.

He is a member just like you.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

I want to know whether the practice is the same as elsewhere.

PRESIDENT.

We thought we could form a proper judgment ourselves, and we need not want to go and refer to anybody else in this matter. In my opinion, in this case you need not follow any other Council.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

We follow Travancore. We do not follow all the rules of the Provincial Councils or of the Imperial Council or of the State Council. We more or less follow the practice of the Council of Travancore, and there the Secretary is a member of the Council.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.,

Is the Secretary to the Legislative Council in Travancore a member of the Council ?

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

Mr. Ullur S. Parameswara Ayyar was the Secretary when I went there, and he was a member.

PRESIDENT.

Mr. Ramasubba Ayyar is the Legislative Council Secretary there now, and he is also a member, and I find him taking part in debates.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

He is also Secretary to the Government.

PRESIDENT.

Our Secretary also may be made Secretary to the Government, and full-timed.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH.

That is what we too say.

Election to the Legislative Council.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

127. Will the Government be pleased to inform with reference to the election to the Legislative Council :

(a) the number of general and special constituencies,

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